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STATISTICS ON NORTH KOREA

P. Kraynov

Under the new system of education, new schools were built and instruction is given in the native language. By 1948, there were 3,008 primary schools, 594 incomplete secondary, 165 secondary schools, and six higher educational institutions, including the state university and five institutes. During 1946, 220,000 persons studied reading and writing, and in 1947, nearly one million persons studied in schools for the abolishment of illiteracy.

During 1947, gross production output increased 2.2 times over 1946. In 1948, the drive for early completion of production plans was widespread throughout North Korean enterprises. By 1 October 1948, the Yongam Shipbuilding Plant had fulfilled its year plan 100.5 percent and the Kungam Mineral Fertilizer Plant, 182 percent.

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The Labor Party, which developed in 1946 from the amalgamation of the Communist and New Peoples' parties, heads the fight for democratic reformation and plays the leading role in the political life of North Korea. As of 1 July 1948, the Labor Party had 738,000 members, 20 percent of whom were workers and 53 percent peasants. Party leaders are Kim Il Sung and Kim Doo-bong.

Also working for the United Democratic National Front is the Democratic Party of North Korea, whose members include the petty and middle bourgeoisie, the clergy, the intelligentsia, and a segment of the peasantry. The party was directed by reactionary elements, headed by Cho Man-sik until 1946, when a new Central Committee, with Choi Yong-Kon as chairman, was elected. As of 1 July 1948, the party had approximately 300,000 members.

The "Young Friends" Chundo-kyo Party, another supporter of the United Democratic National Front, had nearly 300,000 members as of 1 July 1948 and is headed by Kim Dal-hyon, former active member of the anti-Japanese national freedom movement.

The chairman of the Central Committee of the United Democratic National Front, as elected in August 1946, are: Kim Il Sung and Kim Doo-bong of the Labor Party, Choi Yong-Kon of the Democratic Party, and Kim Dal-hyon of the "Young Friends" Party. The United Front of North Korea includes nearly six million persons, and in addition to the three parties mentioned above, includes the following mass organizations of North Korea: the Associated Trade Unions with more than 400,000 members, the Peasant Union with 2,500,000 members, the Union of Democratic Youth with more than 1,250,000 members, the Women's Democratic Union with more than one million members, and other democratic organizations.

In August 1948, 572 deputies, including 360 representatives of the South and 212 of the North, were elected to the Supreme Peoples' Assembly. The deputies included 120 workers, 194 peasants, 152 white employees, seven craftsmen, 22 tradesmen, 29 entrepreneurs, 33 cultural workers, and 15 in other social categories. Thirty-two different parties and social organizations of the North and South are represented, while 114 deputies are non-partisan. The first session of the Assembly, held in September 1948 in Pyongyang, was opened by deputy Moon Wun-yon. The All-Korean democratic government, approved by the Assembly and headed by Kim Il Sung, includes ten representatives from the South and ten from the North; also, representatives of ten major parties and organizations, and nonpartisan representatives from both the North and South. Kim Il Sung's program outlined practical measures for effecting progressive reforms throughout the country and for accomplishing the same democratic reformation in the South as had been carried out in the North.

The Presidium of the Supreme Peoples' Assembly was elected with a staff of 21, and Kim Doo-bong as chairman.

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